

United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Price Field Office
125 South 600 West
Price UT, 84501

In reply refer to: LLUT020000-10-L13110000-EJ0000-24-1A

July, 2010

Dear Reader:

Enclosed is the West Tavaputs Plateau (WTP) Natural Gas Fill Field Development Plan Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) prepared the FEIS in consultation with numerous Cooperating Agencies, including the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), State of Utah, and Carbon, Duchesne, and Uintah Counties, as well as taking into account comments received during the public comment period on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). The FEIS documents the anticipated environmental consequences of developing natural gas resources in the WTP Project Area, located primarily in Carbon County, Utah, as well as alternatives designed to address a broad scope of issues related to the affected human environment.

This FEIS has been developed in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA). The document contains a summary of changes made between the DEIS and FEIS, and a summary of the written and verbal comments received during the public comment period for the DEIS, as well as responses to those comments.

Based on the volume of public comments received on the DEIS, the BLM has determined that is not practical or necessary to send a copy of the FEIS to all those that submitted comments. However, the BLM has widely announced the availability of this document through publication in the Federal Register, the Utah Environmental Notification Bulletin Board (ENBB), BLM websites, and notices in State and local newspapers. A limited number of hard copies of the FEIS will be available for review at the BLM Price Field Office. Copies of the FEIS may also be viewed or downloaded from the BLM Price Field Office website at http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/price/energy/Oil Gas.html.

CEQ guidance normally requires a minimum 30-day waiting period between the Notice of Availability (NOA) for the FEIS and issuance of a Record of Decision. However, because the ROD is subject to a 30-day appeal to the Interior Board of Land Appeals (IBLA), the BLM has decided to issue the ROD at the same time as the FEIS as allowed by (40 CFR 1506.10(b)). This allows the 30-day appeal period for this ROD, and the 30-day waiting/availability period for the EIS to run concurrently. The Agency Preferred Alternative identified in FEIS was not carried forward as the Selected Alternative in ROD. Rather, the decision is a combination of elements selected from the alternatives discussed in the FEIS. The ROD is also available for review at the same locations listed above for the FEIS.

We appreciate your interest in the WTP environmental analysis. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact the Price Field Office at the address shown above, or by telephone at (435) 636-3600.

Sincerely,

erry Kenczka

Field Office Manager